



PATENT APPLICATION  
Q69266

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Hiroo MATSUNAGA

Appln. No.: 10/089,545

Group Art Unit: 3617

Confirmation No.: 5022

Examiner: TBA

Filed: April 1, 2002

For: METHOD OF MANUFACTURING PNEUMATIC TIRE  
AND VULCANIZATION MOLD USED THEREFOR

**STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.704(d)**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

The undersigned attorney hereby states that, based upon information and belief, each item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement filed concurrently herewith was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and that the communication was not received by any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(c) more than thirty days prior to the filing of said Information Disclosure Statement.

Respectfully submitted,

Steven M. Gruskin  
Registration No. 36,818

**SUGHRUE MION, PLLC**  
Telephone: (202) 293-7060  
Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

WASHINGTON OFFICE

**23373**

CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: March 3, 2004



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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**  
**UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§1.97 AND 1.98**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents listed on the attached Form PTO/SB/08 A & B (modified) that the Examiner may deem material to the patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

One copy of each of the listed documents is submitted herewith.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed: (1) no later than three months from the application's filing date; or (2) before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits (whichever is later); or (3) before the mailing date of the first Office Action after filing a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 35 U.S.C. §1.114 and, therefore, no Statement under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) is required. Nevertheless, inasmuch as a Statement Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) can be made, Applicant submits the same herewith.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within thirty days from the date of a corresponding European Search Report dated February 3, 2004, and, therefore, a Statement Under 37 C.F.R. §1.704(d) is also attached.

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicant encloses herewith a copy of the aforementioned EPO Search Report issued in a counterpart application (EP 01 95 5566) citing such documents, together with an English-language version (if not already included) of at least that portion of the EPO Search Report indicating the degree of relevance found by the searching authority.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
U.S. Serial No. 10/089,545

Art Unit 3617  
Q69266

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees (except the Issue Fee and/or the Publication Fee) to our Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account. A duplicate copy of this paper is also attached.

Respectfully submitted,



Steven M. Gruskin  
Registration No. 36,818

**SUGHRUE MION, PLLC**  
Telephone: (202) 293-7060  
Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

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Substitute for Form 1449 A &amp; B/PTO

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Complete if Known

Application Number	10/089,545
Confirmation Number	5022
Filing Date	April 1, 2002
First Named Inventor	Hiroo MATSUNAGA
Art Unit	3617
Examiner Name	TBA
Attorney Docket Number	Q69266

Sheet 1 of 1

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document
		Number	Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)		
	AA	5,798,076	A	08/25/1998	Ladouce
	AB	4,573,894	A	03/04/1986	Blayne, et al.
	AC	1,534,777	A	04/21/1925	Frank
	AD				
	AE				
	AF				
	AG				
	AH				

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document			Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Translation <sup>6</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup>	Number <sup>4</sup>	Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)			
	AI	EP	0 872 324	A2	10/21/1998	Michelin Recherche et Technique, S.A.	
	AJ	EP	0 726 174	A1	08/14/1996	Sumitomo Rubber Industries, Ltd.	
	AK	JP	63 264308	A	11/01/1988	Yokohama Rubber Co., Ltd.	Abstract
	AL	JP	08 047929	A	02/20/1996	Sumitomo Rubber Industries, Ltd.	Abstract
	AM	JP	10 044156	A	02/17/1998	Bridgestone Corp.	Abstract
	AN						
	AO						
	AP						
	AQ						
	AR						
	AS						
	AT						

**NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city, and/or country where published.	Translation <sup>6</sup>
	AU		
	AV		
	AW		
	AX		
	AY		
	AZ		

Examiner Signature

Date Considered

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov), MPEP 901.04 or in the comment box of this document. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST. 3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to indicate here if English language Translation is attached.